



SOCCKER ACTION

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ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ
ΣΕΛΙΣ:15

THE WINNERS!

Now AJAX for the Dockerty Cup

OLYMPIC PARK
SUNDAY

Morwell Falcons v Croydon at 1 pm.

Frankston City Croatia, second game.

GREEN GULLY
SUNDAY

Juventus V Doveton at 1 pm.

Albion Rovers V Ajax, second game.

Green Gully Ajax has added the 1982 State League Cup to the amazing haul of trophies it has won in Victorian soccer in the past two years.

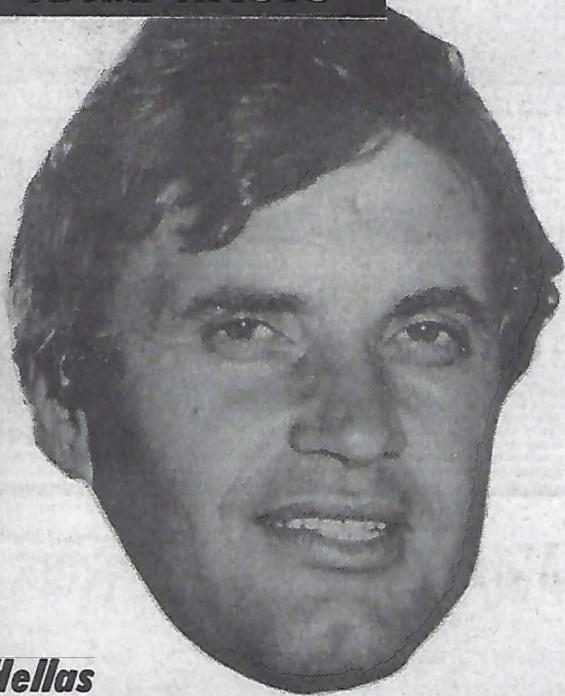
Ajax easily accounted for Morwell Falcons in Sunday's final and now has won two league titles and the Ampol, Dockerty and State League Cups in two seasons, with the promise of even more trophies to come.

All-conquering Ajax starts its quest for a second successive Dockerty Cup triumph on Sunday when it squares up to Albion Rovers in a quarter-final clash at Green Gully Reserve.

Everything points to Ajax advancing into the semi-finals. No doubt Albion will throw down the gauntlet to Ajax from the outset, trying to thwart the momentum of their stride but in Peter Lewis, Stuart Cannell and Gus Macleod, Ajax has the physical strength to meet Albion's challenge head-on.

Croydon and Doveton can upset the odds and emerge from Sunday's quarter-final battles with semi-final berths to their credit. In the remaining quarter-final, Croatia looks far too strong for Frankston City.

RALE RASIC



Hellas
brings him
back home

Australia's 1974 World Cup coach Rale Rasic has won a top job with South Melbourne Hellas. He's coming home to the city where it all started for him, and in an in-depth interview with LAURIE SCHWAB on page 12-13, he talks about memorable games, great players and Sir Arthur George ...

RICHARD McCLUNIE

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The quarter-finals are played as double-headers with the opening games at both venues, Olympic Park and Green Gully Reserve, kicking off at 1 pm.

Olympic Park's opening clash sees Croydon against Falcons. Falcons performed miserably in Sunday's State League Cup final and could bow out of the Dockerty Cup here.

Croydon finished the State League season with a bang, scoring 12 goals in its last two games and conceding none.

With the Loughnane brothers, Peter and Ian, back in form, Croydon coach Bill McArthur is extremely confident.

There will be no better midfield on display than talented Croydon captain Paul Weston. His ability to get into scoring situations is one of Croydon's strengths.

No doubt former Socceroo captain Jimmy Rooney will revel in his return to Olympic Park, scene of some of his more outstanding individual performances.

Victorious Ajax, from left, standing: Dieter Witkowski (committee), John Borg (messeur), Guy Spiteri (President), two supporters, Mario Borg (leaning forward, team manager), Gus Macleod, Bobby McLachlan (coach), John Gardiner (assistant coach), Stuart Cannell, Peter Boyle, Kit Greechan, Peter Lewis, Alan Bennett, Paul Azopardi (committee). **Front:** Eddie Gauci, Steve McKenna, Dave Hobgen, Paul Lewis, Willie Vassallo, Peter Dickson. *Photo by LES SHORROCK.*

Just about every time we've tipped Falcons to go under, the Latrobe Valley club has won but we're sure that Croydon can overcome the burden of our support and snatch a deserved semi-final berth.

Continued page 3

Marton in ST GEORGE a devastating display

ST GEORGE BUDAPEST 3 (Marton 3 incl. pen) SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 1 (Kosminia pen), PSL grand final at Penrith Park, crowd: 6145. Referee: Tony Boskovic. 9. Yellow cards: Clarke, Mullen, Watson, Barnes (SC), R. O'Shea, Slater (SG).

Desidor Marton, the man who finished second in the recent ASPA Player of the Year awards, proved once again just how deadly he can be by hammering all three goals in his team's 3-1 success over the Slackers.

It was success all the way for both Frank Arok and Marton as St George steamrolled Sydney City Hakoah. Arok was adamant after his team's semi-final win over Wollongong that the Grand Final was "in the bag" and

that this time the Slackers would be beaten.

All those who might have had some doubts as to the outcome of the game were given a glimpse of things to come as early as the 3 minute follow-up a cross by Robbie Slater and a superb header by Ted Macdougall which almost found the top left hand corner of the Hakoah net.

Robbie O'Shea made a break after 15 minutes to reach the touch line some eight metres from the near post, but with Slater alone and only metres away from the

line, O'Shea slammed his cross into the side netting.

Sydney City replied through some enterprising runs by Joe Watson and star striker John Kosminia. While Watson taunted Rob O'Shea, Kosminia tried hard to find an opening. After 22 minutes Kosminia appeared to be in the clear as he rounded Michael O'Shea on the edge of the box then slammed a right foot drive straight at Greedy.

Seconds later Saints were one up.

A long clearance by the keeper found Macdougall's head, then Marton, on the edge



Dez Marton

of the Hakoah area. One flick by Marton and two Sydney City players were out of contention for the ball, then, as Clarke came out, Marton simply let fly a superb lob shot which sailed over the outstretched arms of Todd Clarke.

Dez Marton almost made it 2-0 after 36 minutes. It was a brilliant move involving Stone and Slater, before Marton raced into the penalty area to slam in an angled drive, but it took a deflection and went past the post for a corner.

Continued page 3

MUNDIESPAÑA '82 **Thai**
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THE XENOPHOBIC GAMES

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Please, please, stop it! I can't stand any more of the Commonwealth Games hysteria, the fanatical nationalism, the outrageous parochialism. These Games have been transformed from an international sports meet into some sort of Nuremberg Rally for kangaroos, koalas, and the Australian way of life.

Why this in a soccer paper?

Because what we see being glorified by the popular media are the insidious, downright dangerous forces that work against the sport in Australia.

But before I elaborate, isn't it strange to have an international sports event in which soccer is not included? If lawn bowls deserve to be there (what about snooker?) surely soccer has some sort of claims as well.

Reading the papers and listening to the television and radio commentators, we've had to be alert to find mention of the competitors from overseas. On reflection I saw a situation in which the participants were referred to as "The Papua New Guinea lad" and "The New Zealand boy." Yet we were shown almost an entire badminton game because the gallant, brilliant, remarkable, outstanding, mercurial, unbelievable century's-best Australian women were competing for not the gold, not the silver, but the bronze medal!

Some pistol shooting official said his marksmen's victory had made it the greatest day in Australian history.

We live in a multi-cultural society made up of population groups from all over the world, but that fact is not at all acknowledged in the way the Commonwealth Games have been presented to the public. Surely the competitors from England, Scotland, India, Malta, Zimbabwe, Fiji, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Bermuda, Wales, Canada and Northern Ireland winning medals, or at least they've been here to try. But no, they're either not mentioned at all, or squashed into fine print. An Australian gold merits front-page exposure. A Canadian gold is lucky to get in at all.

And soccer in Australia is expected to toe this nationalistic line.

In the Games we're sticking it up "The Poms," "the darkies," and "The Yanks" (yes, that's what I've heard — they reckon Canada's part of the U.S.). In soccer we want no part of "the wogs." What's this Hellas, Juventus, Makedona rubbish? This is Australia, mate.

Well, I'd rather maintain soccer's present multi-cultural identity than to bow to the forces that screeched fanatical patriotism throughout the Commonwealth Games.

People exist outside these shores. Not everyone wants to be a kangaroo. I've heard it said so often that it is "dangerous" to allow nationalistic soccer clubs to exist. I can agree only if such soccer clubs become as offensively fanatical as Australia did during the past week.



Branko Culina

Branko Culina, back with St Albans after seasons with Blacktown and Sydney Croatia, has won the Victorian Metropolitan League best and fairest player award.

He polled 49 votes, the highest total in the four divisions.

Two teenagers filled two of the top three placings in the Third Division: Mike Petersen who won with 39 votes and Nick van Edmond Jnr who came third with 24. Both are sons of famous soccer fathers — Hans Petersen (ex-Hakoah and Wilhelmina) and Nick van Edmond (ex-Wilhelmina).

Another former PSL player among the top vote-getters is Mike Micevski, who came third in the First Division. Micevski played in the PSL with Heidelberg and was also with Marconi.

Branko Culina is the best in Metro

Enrico Mochi of Batman United won the Provisional League best and fairest award with 29 points.

All votes will appear in next week's issue.

METROPOLITAN DIVISION ONE: 24 points Jerry Politis (Langwarrin) on a comeback from Mitre Kraljevski (Lalor); 24, Andrew Kazl (Hawthorn).

DIVISION TWO: 26 points Simon Topalidis (Mordialloc); 18, Simon Connell (Moss Uttd); 15, Charles Rizzo (Regent) and Efstathios Dimitrov (Yarraville).

DIVISION THREE: 21 points John Neales (Uni of Melb); 19, Carlo Salvatore (Dallas); 16, Slobodan Dimitrevski (Altona Uttd).

DIVISION FOUR: 29 points Enrico Mochi (Batman); 19, Milan Stojilovic (Nth Sunshine); 17, Wayne Parker (Springvale Uttd).

PROVISIONAL BEST AND FAIREST 1. Enrico Mochi 2. Simon Topalidis 3. Jerry Politis and Mire Kralevski.

METROPOLITAN REST

AND FAIREST — 1. Branko Culina. 2. Michael Petersen.

PROVISIONAL DIVISION ONE: 25 points Jerry Politis (Langwarrin) on a comeback from Mitre Kraljevski (Lalor); 24, Andrew Kazl (Hawthorn).

DIVISION TWO: 26 points Simon Topalidis (Mordialloc); 18, Simon Connell (Moss Uttd); 15, Charles Rizzo (Regent) and Efstathios Dimitrov (Yarraville).

DIVISION THREE: 21 points John Neales (Uni of Melb); 19, Carlo Salvatore (Dallas); 16, Slobodan Dimitrevski (Altona Uttd).

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PROVISIONAL BEST AND FAIREST 1. Enrico Mochi 2. Simon Topalidis 3. Jerry Politis and Mire Kralevski.

Our cash flies off to the VFL

RALE RASIC

What a slap in the face to Australian soccer!

Philips Industries ends its association with soccer and, last week announced a million-dollar two-year sponsorship of VFL club Collingwood.

It indicates our administrators didn't know how to hang onto the company.

Philips did a tremendous job for soccer. I suspect therefore that had we had a few capable people, they would not have allowed Philips to slip away.

Meanwhile, we're still waiting anxiously for some word of a new sponsor.

Let's hope we get one soon.

Otherwise, every one of the 16 national league clubs will have to pay an application fee of more than \$40,000 — and none of them can afford it!

I confidently predict that by the end of the year, our national youth team will be better than the one that reached the quarter-finals in 1981.

Just look at some of the players in the squad — Robbie Slater who's been a sensation at St. George although he's only 17, David Lowe of Newcastle who won the national Best under 21 Player award and who scores goals galore, Jim Patikas, the Sydney-City midfielder who is already one of the best in the country despite his youth, and Fabio Incantulupo who, together with Patikas, played in last year's world youth titles.

These and the other squad members will benefit enormously from competing in an international tournament in Mexico next month. The tournament will be preceded by a two-week camp.

The world youth championship qualifying games start in Port Moresby in December, and I've no doubt that the young Socceroos will start that series with some very convincing victories.

Why get mad about the truth, Len?

When I picked up my copy of 'Soccer Action' last week I was in the process of reviewing a soccer book, 'A little thing called pride' which is Alec Stock's autobiography.

Stock is a respected figure in British football. He started off his managerial career by making Southern League Yeovil Town, with its notorious sloping pitch, a household word as he steered it into the fifth round of 1948 FA Cup.

He took two teams to Wembley finals too: Queens Park Rangers when they won the League Cup in 1967, and Fulham, which lost the 1975 FA Cup to West Ham.

I was thinking about the '75 final when I read Len McKendry's outburst about the Press on 'Soccer Action's front page last week.

Stock says: "The final was a

By LES SHORROCK

big disappointment ... we couldn't have any excuse after the way we played and in the end took our satisfaction from having taken part. The dressing room afterwards was of course nothing like 1967's. But just the same the after-match banquet was a happy occasion ... the club was so delighted at getting to Wembley that it soon forgot the score."

What a contrast to Heidelberg's ignominious departure from the Philips Cup with angry spectators trying to start a demonstration outside the dressing rooms while the coach and some players slipped quietly out through the back entrance to the ground.

Stock says: "The final was a

The spectators were no doubt angry because they felt that the negative tactics Heidelberg employed when it was a goal up contributed to the defeat, and they again vented their disappointment by staying away from the League Cup semi-final the following week, when the Wollongong supporters clearly outnumbered them.

After that game, I interviewed from the radio a local club president, Sam Goulopoulos, who doggedly insisted that Heidelberg had had a successful season, despite losing two cups. He pointed out, quite rightly, that the Bergers' main objective had been to get established at Heidelberg and to wipe out the debts it had incurred at Olympic Park.

But then he went on to trot out the excuse that had been proffered all season, that shortage of cash meant a shortage of players, which was also McKendry's line when he said that he played against Wollongong with only eight fit players. But what sort of management is it that tries to get through a season with only 12 players?

As it was, Heidelberg pulled off the scoop of the year by picking up Mick Valentine for a mere \$5000 from Box Hill but when I reminded Goulopoulos of this, in the context that there were more Valentines in the lower reaches of the V.S.F., just waiting to be discovered, he said, "Oh yes, but Valentines don't win championships. They need experienced players around them."

Very true, but nobody has

been quicker at discarding experienced players than Heidelberg.

As it was picked up a local club, it was selling Jimmy Rooney to Croydon City for \$3000 and when the unfortunate Don McLeod was being carried off in the Philips Cup final, there was no Bobby Provan to replace him. By then McKendry must have been wishing he had Andy Bozikis sitting on the bench too, instead of the untried Charlie Bekiaris and Chilean Juan Toro Castillo.

So it isn't the Press's fault

that Heidelberg had a thin squad.

It was the club's own doing — and why the Press

must bear the brunt of McKendry's wrath for saying his team is dull to watch escapes

ing the feelings of all those spectators the club is losing, like the fellow who rang Radio 3EA and said he's rather watch South Melbourne Hellas going forward and making mistakes, than Heidelberg playing backwards.

I can't speak for the whole of the Press, but as for Radio 3EA, where I broadcast along with Jose Montes, we have always found Heidelberg, the most unco-operative of all the Melbourne P.S.L. clubs.

If they have a bad result at home, the top brass is sulking behind locked doors after the game and never mind radio deadlines.

We always have tried to maintain an even-handed policy at 3EA by interviewing both coaches after the game but McKendry doesn't speak to me any more and now I'm afraid poor Jose is on the outer too. At least that's the impression we've had since McKendry rang him immediately after a recent broadcast, threatening to sue because

he'd been interviewed by the

Press.

But then, Graham Taylor,

Watford's track suit manager,

has been known to mingle with the crowds on the terraces and he knows what entertains

them — goals, and plenty of them.

And I don't believe for a

minute that the spectators will

desert a club if it loses, provid-

ed it shows a willingness to go

on the attack.

McKendry should know this, because a club from his part of the world, West Ham, still has a devoted following, and no club has had a more chequered career but then, win or lose, the Hammers have charisma, and regrettably, the Bergers don't.

But let dear old Alec Stock have the last word.

In a chapter about the problems of the game, he pinpoints two areas. In Britain, he says, football is being ruined because it is run by people who never have kicked a ball and don't understand the game (that sounds very familiar), and there are too many coaches.

"Perhaps it would be better if we threw away the coaching manual for a couple of seasons and allowed players to play with a bit of freedom. We want characters and expression, goals and thrills. There is no substitute," he says.

All I can say is, Amen to that!

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Sydney's dominance may wreck PSL

So the bad old days are back again — NSW is the overbearing dominant force in Australian soccer. Yes, I did say bad old days despite my dormant NSW patriotism being slightly tickled.

This year every possible title and honor landed in NSW: the PSL championship, the Grand Final the Phillips Cup; this State has provided the country's best player, best young player, coach and referee. What's more, with the exception of young David Lowe of Newcastle, all the other clubs and individuals hail from Sydney.

Is this really good for Australian soccer? Is it healthy for such an imbalance to exist?

Well, it's more than doubtful. In fact, this could be one of the reasons why so many interstate clubs have had a checkered first few years, recording all-time lows in gate takings.

Of course, Sydney's premier position in the PSL is largely an acquired status — acquired through a series of transfer moves.



Andrew Dettre

supported by licensed establishments and all are capable of luring almost any talent they want to those shores.

A Brisbane City, West Adelaide, Canberra or Heidelberg couldn't write out a cheque for \$30,000 to sign David Mitchell, let alone offer him the contract he now has.

But the Sydney clubs can and do just that.

It would surprise me at all if players like Alan Davidson, Charlie Villani, Gary Cole, Theo Selemenis, David Lowe, Neil Banfield, Charlie Egan, Doug Brown, Steve Blair, Danny Wright, Tony Brennan and others would all end up in Sydney.

The explanation is simple. All five Sydney clubs are strongly supported by licensed establishments and all are capable of luring almost any talent they want to those shores.

The reverse trade has been a one-sided trilateral from Sydney, Kosminski and Mitchell for Sydney City; Ratcliffe, Wilkinson and the three O'Sheas for St. George; Hughes, Giampaolo, Parks and Soper (Newcastle) for APIA, Bozanic for Marconi and Moulls for Olympic. No

What would be the result of all that?

Well, for one thing the Sydney clubs would get even stronger — and the interstate ones a lot weaker, this in turn increasing attendance at Sydney matches — especially for the visits of the road interstate teams — but would plunge the Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra and other teams further towards the baseline.

Eventually, a continuation of this imbalance would destroy the PSL or whatever it will be called next year.

The only way to prevent that is to bring some legislation limiting the number of interstate transfers, say to one player every two years per club.

I believe this is just as important as the other quota system which curtails overseas imports.

Cubs must simply be forced to pay much greater attention to the production of their own junior talent — without compulsion they will make only a sham effort and take the easy way out by raiding the interstate clubs.

I can hear some critics argue that no such regulation exists in other countries; nobody and nothing prevents a player from Hamburg to go to Stuttgart, from Leicester to London.

True — but we are unique. Only NSW and to some extent Queensland have been turned into casino-states; the others, prudently perhaps, have resisted that temptation. So we are not competing with them on equal terms and it's up to the ADF to recognise this through legislation.

Of course, I know they won't.

Our hierarchy is famous for treating the symptoms, not the causes. They fiddle with fancy names and logos and get lost in a maze of trivia while basic issues go unrecognised.

However, the very first who should campaign for such a rule are the Sydney clubs.

At present few of the interstate teams carry enough glamour quotient to send the fans into ecstasy, so the terraces stay empty.

But if, once again, we had a powerful Adelaide City, West Adelaide, South Melbourne or Canberra team coming — instead of emaciated teams like this year and the one that may's sickly Sydney attendances would also improve.

Sydney City won the PSL by nine points and had one of the smallest aggregate paying crowds in the League. If they win the title by 15 points next year it may flatter their ego — but would effectively empty their splendid Athletic Field.

HAKOAH HUMBLED!

From page 1



Alex Vesic

two players and facing Greedy only to be brought down by Greedy.

Some of his tackling was far

too late and some of the behind

the play skirmishes he was involved in should not be part of

the talented players repertoire.

JIMMY PATIKAS: Slow

start to the game, then exploded into action in the second half. So talented, so fast and enthusiastic, yet so wasted in the Grand Final.

His second half effort was all him, but alas, he wanted to do all of it on his own.

On at least four occasions he

went on solo runs but in his eagerness to do well his final shots were well off target.

MURRAY BARNES: Certainly the biggest disappointment in the Slickers side. His usual dominance in midfield and attacking play inside the opponent's penalty area was missing while his complaint to the referee, after Marlon scored his third goal, showed an unusual lack of knowledge of the soccer rules.

The good books says: A

player shall not be declared off-field if he has not been

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A toast to success! The Carrum Cowboys celebrate their championship triumph in the Victorian Bayside League. From left, standing: Colin Hampton, Jim Ward, Graham Watson, David Kelly, Martin Mitzmaurice, Allan Godwin, Derek Bonner, Gary Watson. Front: David Hunter, Guy Lunney, Chris Bardsley, Ricky Gray, Rick Slobar. Missing: Tommy Taylor, Dennis Bennett.

South Oakleigh, Holland Park

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE CUP QUARTER-FINAL

ARDEER 3 (N. Christodoulas 2, Wisniewski 1) **SOUTH OAKLEIGH** 3 (Babatolas 2, Tantis 1) AET. South Oakleigh won 5-4 on penalties.

ARDEER: Kotega, Borucki, Czarnecki, Olinowski, Di Benedetto, Gamenski, Wisniewski, Kucynski, Dyrkut, N. Christodoulas, J. Christodoulas, J. Janczak, Adamowicz, Zombole.

STH OAKLEIGH: Petrov, Lukas, Stogannan, Cavar, Batsikas, Tsakalos, Kotsopoulos, Kapila, Richmond v. Mornington; Green Gully, Ajax v. Moorabbin City.

BEST PLAYERS: Ardeer: Kucynski, Di Benedetto, N. Christodoulas, Sth Oakleigh: Stogannan, Dziedzic, Cavar.

Underdogs Sth Oakleigh pressured Ardeer throughout the whole match but were unsuccessful in their efforts to score in the first half.

On the other hand, Ardeer played spasmodically and scored when Kucynski's low drive rebounded off Petrov to Wisniewski, who scored after 42 minutes. Sth Oakleigh's inevitable equaliser came when Stergiou crossed to an unnamed Tzitzidis who made no mistake from close range.

Ardeer's second goal came in the 78th minute after Janiakoff batted for and won the ball, gave it to Kucynski who tempted two defenders and sent John Christodoulas down the line. He crossed to another Tzitzidis who neatly headed home.

Sth Oakleigh continued battling away, and equalised in the 86th when Babatolas lobbed over Kotega. Loose defending from Ardeer found Babatolas alone again in extra time, and he scored again from an angled shot. Ardeer equalised in extra time, when Kucynski sent a fine high ball to Niff Christodoulas, who headed past the Sth Oakleigh defence and into the net.

So both teams were still deadlocked after extra time, in an excellent, hard game, which South Oakleigh eventually took out 5-4 on penalties.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE CUP QUARTER-FINAL

HOLLAND PARK 1 (Kocan 1) **BURNLEY** 0

HOLLAND PARK: A. Kotan 10, Z. Omerogullari 6, S. St. A. Koca 8 (sent off 70th), T. Gunerli 7, Z. Omerogullari 6 (sub M. Adalar 72nd min), A. Kukuk 5, T. Solek 6, C. Ilhan 9, E. Karap 7, A. Koca 7.

A big crowd attended this hotly contested quarter-final match at the Albion Rovers ground. Holland Park began better and eventually was rewarded when Alaadin Koca powered in a forceful header after a corner by Ahmed Sevinc to put Holland Park 1-0 up.

However, Holland Park slowly lost its ascendancy after half-time and Burnley attacked time after time, only to be thwarted by some superb saves from young goalkeeper Ali Kotan.

Burnley looked even more dangerous after Holland Park goalscorer, Alaadin Koca, was sent off in the 70th minute but once again good goalkeeping ensured that Holland Park qualified for the semi-finals.

Best players for Holland Park: A. Kotan, C. Ilhan, A. Koca.

This week's Cup games

HARRY ARMSTRONG CUP QUARTER-FINALS

Saturday, kick-off 2.45 pm on grounds of first named clubs.

George Cross v. Knox City: Helles-Hakko v. Prahran St. Vida; Richmond v. Mornington; Green Gully, Ajax v. Moorabbin City.

METROPOLITAN CUP SEMI-FINALS

Saturday, at Sixth Avenue, Burwood: Dandenong City v. South Oakleigh; Frankston Pines v. Box Hill. First game starts at 1.30 pm.

PROVISIONAL CUP SEMI-FINALS

Saturday, at Green Gully Reserve: Rosanna v. Brunswick City; Bulleen v. Holland Park. First game starts at 1.30 pm.

AMATEUR LEAGUE CUP SEMI-FINALS

Sunday, at Egan Lee Reserve, Postel Institute v. Lyndale United; Bundoora v. Diamond Creek. First game starts at 1.30 pm.

Bingham, O'Callaghan hunt Biskic, Faulkner

By LAURIE SCHWAB

MORWELL FALCONS 1 (Mitten 47th) **CROATIA** 0, State League Cup semi-final at Olympic Park, Wednesday night, crowd about 1500 (double header).

MORWELL FALCONS: Whiteside 0 — Smart 1, Irwin 1, Daniels 6, Nell 7 — Bingham 8, Higham 6, O'Callaghan 7 — Mitten 7, McCluskie 6, van Baar 7.

CROATIA: Kucin 1, Curcio 8, Adams 8, Parrot 7, Morovic 7 — Biskic 8, Faulkner 8, Antolovic 6 (Latif 65th), Gajevic 6 — Brogan 7, Jeff Faulkner.

Mitten, who scored a hat-trick in Croatia's memorable 7-0 victory over Juventus in the 1980 Dockey Cup final, scored the goal that put his new club, Morwell Falcons, into the 1982 State League Cup final.

It paid to Croatia's dream of winning a fourth successive State League Cup.

After Mitten had scored with a header in the 47th minute, with help from Tony van Baar, it was John Higham, Harry Bingham and John O'Callaghan who did the rest.

Higham the big centre back

joined Morwell from Preston Makedonia, repelled everything Croatia could throw at him, and Bingham and O'Callaghan snuffed out the danger which had been posed in the first half by Josip Biskic and Jeff Faulkner.

Morwell coach Dave O'Connor said after the game he had been concerned mainly with attacking Croatia full-out, but did concede that Bingham and O'Callaghan had to watch out for Biskic and Faulkner as the game went on.

"They were causing us a lot of problems coming from deep, but Harry and John stopped them well in the second half," O'Connor said.

And what would O'Connor have done had Morwell not gone into the lead? "Maybe I would have brought on John Mitten as an extra man up front," he said.

Croatia manager Frank Butcher agreed that Morwell's Smart had committed a hand-ball inside the penalty area without a penalty being awarded, and that there should also have been a penalty being awarded, and that there should also have been a penalty over Faulkner being brought down in the first minutes of play.

O'Connor shrugged his shoulders. He didn't really give a damn. Morwell had won, that's all that concerned him, and who could blame him?

But early in the game, it easily could have gone wrong for Falcons. Faulkner created



Morwell's David Neill (right) tries to get in front of Croatia striker David Brogan.

Croatia fought back valiantly but could find no way past Bill Whiteside in goal.

He made many excellent saves, one of the best being from substitute Ossie Latif who struck a powerful free kick past defenders. Whiteside pounced and gathered it in at this second attempt.

The small crowd had a bit of a chuckle when the ball got stuck on the roof covering the terracing. There was a delay of a couple of minutes while officials went looking for another ball.

two great scoring chances — the second with a diagonal low ball across the penalty area, without anyone following it in. Then right back Tony Curcio played a similar ball across the box, and again no-one was there to capitalise.

At the other end, however, Curcio had to clear of the line to keep the match scoreless at half-time.

The winning goal came only

minutes after the interval. Tony van Baar, working hard up and down the left flank, headed the ball square into the box, where Mitten headed it past Peter Blasby.

McKenna's shot was deflected clear. The dreadful performance against Croydon four days earlier in the last round of the State League season was forgotten by the Juventus camp as it put Ajax under the hammer.

The State League champion wasn't at full strength. Regular goalkeeper Lou Denys was holding over a sore former Australian teenage star Steve McKenna was given the nod.

Stories emanating from the Ajax camp on doubts over the inexperienced McKenna's ability to cope with the cup atmosphere proved unfounded.

Given the kid his due. Apart from once dropping a high ball which fell to the feet of Fabio Incalalupo whose shot was deflected for a corner, young McKenna performed admirably. He was tested by a couple of long shots from Stuart Cunningham, a ferocious charge by Graham French and a well timed header by the same player. But McKenna was equal to the task.

McKenna's opposite number, Alex Fantoma, was Juve's man of the match. Fantoma isn't tall but his reflexes are lightning sharp. He has a flair for the spectacular and can be quite a showman, delighting as he does in his own acrobatic ability. Some of his performances, launches clear were breathtaking, especially in the second half when he was forced to pull off a series of point blank saves.

The best man on the park was Ajax's Peter Lewis. The big, aggressive right back never wavered from his commitment to charge forward and put tremendous pressure on Juventus at the back. His second half was outstanding. He screamed encouragement to his mates, often taking matters into his own hands and making 30 and 40 metre runs down the right. He always has been a fierce tackler but his off the ball runs now are superbly engineered. That's a dimension to his game which has been finely tuned during his stay at Ajax. Gone is the

French had the easiest of chances in the 37th minutes. Vince Bannon hammered across a far post ball from the right to the unmarked French. The big Juventus striker headed down firmly but McKenna was across quickly to dive low and parry for a corner.

Extra time was odds on until

Gardiner and Greenach combined to put Ajax into the final

of the State League Cup.

A minute later McKenna's

one major blemish occurred.

He dropped a high, floating

cross but Incalalupo's quick

shot was deflected clear.

Then, in the 42nd minute, Juve

struck.

Ajax was at the back but he

only had to wait for four

minutes of action to put in

another strike before making

his belated appearance.

His omission was a shock to

most observers and the Peter

Dickson — Paul Lewis on the

right side of the area. The

blond headed Ajax striker spun

around and smashed the ball

goalward but Fantoma pulled

off an acrobatic save to parry

wide. From the resultant

Fantoma again denied Paul Lewis.

With 19 minutes of normal

time left, Ajax struck.

Greenach crossed from the

right to the far post. Macleod

headed back across goal and

Paul Lewis headed in off the

post from five metres to make it 1-1.

In the 80th minute Gardiner's attempted back pass

almost beat the advancing

McKenna who clutched the ball for a second only to lose it

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ANY OF THE STORES — YOUR BUFFALO SPORTS SPECIALIST SOCCER STORES

FALCONS OUTCLASSED

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

AJAX 3 (Peter Lewis 22nd, Macleod 73rd, Greechan 79th). MORWELL FALCONS 0. State League Cup Final at Olympic Park No. 1. Crowd: about 2,000.

Referee: Henderson B.

AJAX: McKenna 7 — Peter Lewis 3, Cannell 8, Gardner 9, Hobgen 8 — Smallman 7, Vassallo 7, Williams 7 (Bennett 83rd) — Boyle 7 (Greechan 78th), Macleod 7, Paul Lewis 7.

FALCONS: Whiteside 7 — Smart 7, Higham 7, Irvine 7, Neill 6 — Bingham 7, Daniels 7, O'Callaghan 6 — Mitten 6, McClunie 6, T. van Baar 7 (Bond 89th).

Morwell Falcons were no match for Green Gully Ajax as the green and whites cantered toward their first State League Cup success.

History was in the making from the outset. Neither side had won the State League Cup in fact this was the first time that Ajax or Falcons had reached the final of the competition played between the top four State League sides at the end of the league season.

In the final analysis Falcons were outclassed. That didn't seem to dampen the enthusiasm of their fans who sang raucously as the players from the Latrobe Valley club were presented with their runner-up medals at the end of the match.

One of the stars of a fairly drab show was a linesman. I've watched this guy in action about three times this year and he just can't keep off

Juve finishes third, big deal!

JUVENTUS 3 (Romano 14th, Incantalo 40th, Ruccia 89th) CROATIA 2 (Brogan penalty 22nd, Cavallari own goal 85th). State League Cup play-off for third place, at Olympic Park, crowd about 2000 [double header].

JUVENTUS: Fontana 1, Geroni 2, Cavallari 6, D'Amato 10 — Geroni 7, Cunningham 8, Werner 6 (Brogan 85th), Incantalo 7 (Ruccia 89th) — French 7, Romano 7.

CROATIA: Macleod 6 — Dzankovic 8, Parton 7, Adams 8, Morovic 6 (Blaver 6 half time) — Antolovic 6, Faulkner 7 (Blaver 60th), Golicic 7 — Kuna 6, Brogan 6, Lutif 6.

Both teams were well below top strength. Missing were Nelson, Heery, Pat Bannon and Ged Bannon of Juventus and Curcio, Bliskic,

— LAURIE SCHWAB

Blasby, Murphy and for one half, Blaver of Croatia.

The idea of playing this meaningless match was to attract the spectators of the two clubs, to swell the gate-takings. It didn't work.

Juventus generally showed greater urgency than Croatia — attacking well to grab a 2-1 lead, then defending grimly to hang onto it, and striking again the very last minute after Croatia had leveled for the second time.

It was a memorable game for Paul Romano and Sam Ruccia, usually reserve players, who scored two of Juventus' goals. Ruccia had come on as a substitute for the other scorer, Fabio Incantalo.

In between this unconvincing action in the Ajax goalmouth, Paul Lewis broke clear. Whiteside was off his line in a flash to smother well. Lewis gathered the rebound and tried to dribble round Whiteside who stole the ball off the feet of Lewis.

Even though he picked the ball out of the back of his net three times, goalkeeper White side was one of Falcons' best.

When Ajax had wrapped up this final, Kit Greechan replaced Peter Boyle. Within a minute of coming on Greechan's first touch put Ajax 3-0 up.

Peter Lewis, on the left, knocked the ball inside the smallman's box, but was blocked by the feet of Whiteside and the incoming Greechan knocked the ball into the unguarded goal.

When it was no contest Falcons had their best chances to score but a Bingham header, a fierce long drive by Bond and a close range effort from Sandy Irvine all failed.

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Peter Lewis is the best right back in Victoria.



Morwell Falcons, back row: Peter Viggiano (team manager), David Wilson, Richie McClunie, Noel Mitten, Andrew Halkett, Bill Whiteside, Tony van Baar, John Higham, Nigel Daniels, Grant Smart, Dave Anderson (physiotherapist), Dave Brabbin (assistant coach). Front row: John Bond, Harry Bingham, Dave O'Connor, John O'Callaghan, David Neill, Dave Perkins, Sandy Irvine. Mascot: Peter O'Connor.

per Bill Whiteside no chance. McKenna was down well to save.

Two minutes earlier Falcons had a good chance thanks to midfielder Nigel Daniels who won the ball well near the half way line, skinned around an opposition player sent by van Baar down the right, then beat Hobgen to the ball parried wide by McKenna.

In between Ajax mastered its opponent.

Peter Lewis, just after half time, could have put Ajax further ahead but miskicked from 10 metres. The ball rolled toward the far post where Whiteside just tipped it clear before the incoming Paul Lewis could make contact.

Gus Macleod and John Higham challenged for a high ball in the 58th minute. The ball fell to the feet of Jim Williams who let fly with a delicately struck shot which was deflected by a Falcons defender. From the resultant corner Paul Lewis smacked the ball goalward. Grant Smart cleared on the line by kicking the ball into Peter Lewis and out for a goalkick.

Then John Bond replaced Tony van Baar, a shock move. Van Baar easily was Falcons' best front runner. The big forward was more competitive than Ritchie McClunie or Noel Mitten and his selection as the player to make way for Bond was mystifying.

Stuart Cannell was making sure that McClunie's threat in the air never materialised and Dave Hobgen was outplaying Mitten.

Gardiner put Paul Lewis through the 1982 leading State League scorer and his shot parried by Whiteside's feet. The ball went out for a corner which was sent across and found the Falcons' defence under pressure to clear. Big Gus Macleod was at the back and slammed the ball inside the near post from about six metres out to put the result beyond doubt.

Not that Falcons ever looked likely to extend the State League championship the past two seasons. Sure enough one commanded Falcons for making this final but the lack of commitment from the Latrobe Valley club was a major disappointment.

It was expected that Falcons, although the underdogs, would make a game of it. They failed miserably.



The Pet Della Rocca XI, standing left to right: team manager of the great Juventus of 1970, Jim Simionato, "Peppone" Medorini, trainer for over 20 years, Ricky Mezzadra, Jack Reilly, John Rossato, Claudio Foagel, John Lucchesi, Spadero, Frank Barbieri. Kneeling: Claude Lucchesi, Joe Sonsini, Dario Epifano, Nino Mariani, Bruno Sabidussi, Morris Bonifanti, Pet Della Rocca, Dino De Marchi; the last three with their sons as mascots.

The all-starts who met the Pet Della Rocca XI in the testimonial match, from left: Mike Kovacek with Mike Kovacek Jr., Frank Micic, Andy Segi, Hugh Howe, John Kennedy, Jim Armstrong, Steve Walker. Front: Steve Moore, Andy Bozikas, Branko Culina, Billy Vojtek with son Damian, Hammy McMeekan.

Big crowd honors

Pat Della Rocca

Brunswick United Juventus organised a big soccer afternoon on Sunday September 26 at its Olympic Park to parade its juniors and to hold a testimonial game for Pat Della Rocca.

Over 100 juniors took part in the end of year parade and gave a demonstration of their skills in two short games between mixed selections. At the end of the juniors' segment Della Rocca presented the inaugural Della Rocca Trophy to the junior who was judged the most like the former Juventus captain, having the qualities that have been the hallmark of his career: sportsmanship and loyalty.

The recipient was Claudio Cobbo of the U/15 team.

The large crowd gave a roar reminiscent of old times when Della Rocca led his team on to the field, followed by the Billy Vojtek XI and punctuated the entertaining game with long applauses. The younger team, led by former international Vojtek, finished on top with a 3-2 scoreline.

During half-time of the main game Juventus-Croydon, Della Rocca was presented with a certificate of life membership. Certificates of merit went to Dominic Mattioli, of Mattioli Bros., representing the sponsors and GIOVANNI Zino, a supporter for over 30 years, in appreciation of his attachment of the club.



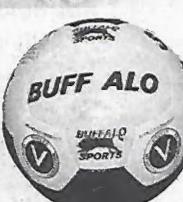
Claudio Cobbo (left) with the Della Rocca Trophy as Juventus' best junior, presented to him by Pat Della Rocca himself. At right is club secretary Rocky Di Zio.



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Wolves' Vlietstra makes his mark

Young defender Ray Vlietstra was one of the success stories in Wollongong's marvellous season in the 1982 Phillips League.

The 18-year old son of the club's secretary John, has blossomed into one of the brightest prospects in the country. And when he was called upon to serve in the first team he invariably gave a good account of himself and maintained the faith shown in him by his two coaches this year — Ken Morton and Willie Wallace.

Vlietstra, pronounced Fleetstra, had the misfortune of being understudy to international stopper Arno Bertogna in the Wolves team.



Philip Micallef

But when Bertogna was forced out of the side through injury or suspension, Vlietstra more than made up for the senior Socceroo's absence.

Vlietstra's positive performances in both senior and youth Wollongong teams did not go unnoticed.

This selection certainly is the highlight of Vlietstra's career.

"It's all happening," he said with a smile like a Viennese choirboy.

But on the field of play the youngster transforms his off-field charm and even shyness into fierce aggression. Vlietstra was born in Australia and his parents are Dutch. And the cheeky arrogance that made Holland such a formidable soccer nation in the mid-seventies very much is apparent in this promising stopper who now faces the best striker in the PSL in his eight first team appearances so far.

His best displays were both in Melbourne and the opposition on both occasions was Heidelberg. In the first round game at Olympic Park, Vlietstra blotted out feared striker Gary Cole and Wollongong won 2-0.

And in the recent semi-final at Middle Park, Vlietstra combined beautifully with the rest of the defence to keep out Jamie Paton and Jimmy Campbell. Again Wolves won, this time 3-1.

Wollongong coach Willie Wallace sees a bright future for the young Vlietstra.

"He's very good in the air, extremely fit and pretty confident for his age," said Wallace.

"But his greatest asset is his attitude."

Wallace said there obviously are some areas in his game which need tidying up.

"He needs to be more disciplined. His enthusiasm is so great sometimes he feels he should do both his and other people's job."

He must learn to contain himself," Wallace said.

"But with such an attitude, I've no doubt he will make it."

Vlietstra seems to have accomplished his dream of making the Wolves first team. But he would be the first to realise it was pretty hard to get close to the top and it would be even harder to stay there.

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\$370,000 Alston wants to coach



Adrian Alston

Former Socceroo Adrian 'Noddy' Alston, Australia's most expensive export, is looking for a coaching job.

He has been back about three months after spending recent years in England and the U.S.

Alston transferred from Safeway United (Wollongong) to Luton Town of England for \$40,000 after the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany.

Cardiff City then bought him for \$140,000 and he transferred from there to the Tampa Bay Rowdies for \$180,000 — making a total of \$370,000 in transfer fees.

With Tampa Bay, Alston reached the U.S. final, only to experience defeat against the mighty New York Cosmos.

Cosmos, who still had Pele at the time, is due in Melbourne soon to play against the Victorian State team.

Alston played in England for Preston North End but made his name in Australia, topping the NSW First Division goalscorers' list with Safeway before switching to St. George Budapest, and then back to Safeway.

He returned from overseas in 1977 to play under his former Socceroo teammate Johnny Warren at Canberra City.

During that visit he scored three goals in 10 PSL games and played in Australia's World Cup games against Kuwait, South Korea and Iran, bringing to 61 his number of appearances for Australia.

Alston's playing career ended in late 1978 due to a knee injury.

Now he's intent on coaching. He's willing to move to any of the major cities and he can be contacted in Sydney on 81 4986 or in Wollongong on 84 4726.

— LAURIE SCHWAB

Mobile Ilioski, skilful Mila



TIM WHITE
Victorian coaching director

Once again Victoria has set the pace for the rest of Australia with its brave decision to bring New York Cosmos to Melbourne.

Such tours play a vital part in the development of players and the game as a whole.

It was a difficult year for arranging visits to Australia of the World Cup teams. Spain but the VSF turned up despite the efficient and exciting Watford combination and now of course North America's Super Bowl champion, New York Cosmos.

Selecting the Victorian teams was not an easy task but I have picked what I consider to be a mixture of youth and experience. The squad is a combination of fast, exciting, skilful players and experienced players who will use

that experience to prevent unnecessary chasing.

The goalkeeping

position will be covered by Jeff O'Brien who is unlucky to make the national squad, and Steve Potter who retained the No. 1 spot at Makedonia despite the return of New Zealand's Richard Wilson from Spain.

Former team-mates Gerry Bennett and Peter Lewis will contest the right back position, with versatile Charlie Yankos the diminutive Keith Adams seeking the nod at left back. It's possible Yankos will fill a central defensive position

where he is equally at home, although the Green Gully pair of Stuart Cannell and John Gardner has proved a formidable partnership.

The midfield is an exciting one, contested as it is by the country's No. 1 midfielder Jim Campbell, probably the State League's No. 1 midfielder Ken Murphy, Mister Mobility himself Zoram Ilioski and a newcomer to the State team, the very skilful Stefan Mila.

Added to them of course is one of Australia's youth team heroes, Fabio Incantalupo. He of course is also a candidate for a place up front.

The front line is made up of players with the ability to act target men, such as Carl Gilder and Dave Brogan, with the latter a regular goalscorer.

Gilder of course has been there before and knows what's expected in a game like this. Added to those two is the State League's top scorer Paul Lewis. He has had an excellent season and is deadly in the penalty box.

Wide up front we have George Campbell who combines his skill with 90 minutes of perpetual motion, and the very powerful goalscorer Doug Brown.

Those 18 players make up the squad for this exciting game. Obviously they cannot all play but their performances in training over the next two weeks could be vital to their selection.

The players are training twice a week at Olympic Park. The Phillips League players in the squad are training an extra night with State League teams who are currently still playing. So the scene is set for an exciting game at Olympic Park on Sunday October 17. It's a great way for soccer fans to end the season.

The Level Three Senior Award Coaching Course will be conducted at Monash Uni-



Brazil's 1970 World Cup captain Carlos Alberto — on a farewell tour with Cosmos

versity from January 10 to 14, 1983.

It is a five-day course whereas previously this level course was over nine days.

It was decided by the State Directors of Coaching and the National Director to change the format over the next two years.

The reduction in days does not mean that the course content is diminished. In fact the content is increased a little.

Let me explain this and the reason for the change. In the past, candidates were examined practically on the course but it is felt that this constituted a pressure situation which effected their intake of knowledge and their concentration during Staff Coaches' practical sessions.

Therefore course candidates will be examined practically at a later date, with a possibility that coaches will be advised to practice throughout the following season and return for examination on the weekends before and after the course the following year.

However it is possible for candidates to be examined during the year.

Basically, course candidates are given every opportunity to concentrate their efforts purely on the intake of knowledge and ideas without the worry of being examined.

Further information can be obtained from me. This year's course will be staffed by me, Ron Smith, former Victorian Director of Coaching and currently at the Australian Institute of Sport; and John Gardner, a National Coaching Scheme Staff Coach.



State player Peter Lewis of Ajax is up in attack, along with Peter Dickson (left), causing problems for Albion's Bobby Nisbett.

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Amateur League Division 2

COACH FOR SEASON 1983

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UNDER 13 STATE COACH

The JLMC require an Under 13 State Coach for 1983. The position is honorary and applicants must have the ASCF Preliminary Coaching Award.

Applications stating qualifications and listing experience in coaching junior players should be forwarded to

JLMC SECRETARY,
PO BOX 134,
ST KILDA WEST 3182

Applications close 13th October, 1982

State League votes, scorers

Top votegetters:
36 — Stefan Mila (Polonia)
24 — Paul Drinoczyk (Frankston City)

21 — David Neil (Falcions), Joe Carroll (Wilhelmina), Graham Tuttill (Frankston City), Kenny Smart (Albion), Keith Adams (Croatia), George Bzikis, David Nixon (Northcote), Joe Trout (Wilhelmina), John Gardner (Ajax), Harry Hird (Juveniles), John Creany (Albion), Stan Webster (Doveton), Dave Rigby, Hugh McCann (George Cross), Lou Tsigaris, George Hannah, Duncan Cummings (Hellas-Hakoah).

15 — John Gardner (Ajax), Harry Hird (Juveniles), John Creany (Albion), Stan Webster (Doveton), Dave Rigby, Hugh McCann (George Cross), Lou Tsigaris, George Hannah, Duncan Cummings (Hellas-Hakoah).

18 — Graham Tuttill (Frankston City), Kenny Smart (Albion), Keith Adams (Croatia), George Bzikis, David Nixon (Northcote), Joe Trout (Wilhelmina), John Gardner (Ajax), Harry Hird (Juveniles), John Creany (Albion), Stan Webster (Doveton), Dave Rigby, Hugh McCann (George Cross), Lou Tsigaris, George Hannah, Duncan Cummings (Hellas-Hakoah).

23 — Paul Lewis (Ajax), 18 — Dave Brogan (Croatia), Dave Rigby (George Cross)

14 — Gus Macleod (Ajax), 13 — Duncan Cummings (Hellas-Hakoah)

12 — Noel Mitten, Richie McClinie (Falcions), Ossie Latif (Croatia), Fabio Incantalupo (Juveniles)

11 — Stan Webster (Doveton), Alex Marshall (Polonia)

10 — Ian Stirton (Doveton), Ken Stewart (Wilhelmina)

9 — Peter Lewis (Doveton), 8 — Ian Stirton (Doveton), Ken Stewart (Wilhelmina)

7 — Peter Lewis (Doveton), 6 — Peter Lewis (Doveton), 5 — Peter Lewis (Doveton), 4 — Peter Lewis (Doveton), 3 — Boyle, Dickson

2 — Peter Lewis (Doveton), 1 — Peter Lewis (Doveton), 1 — Boyle, Dickson

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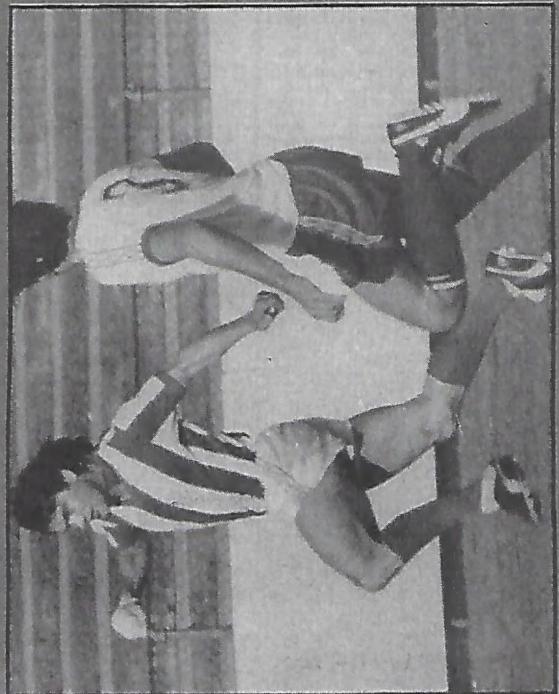
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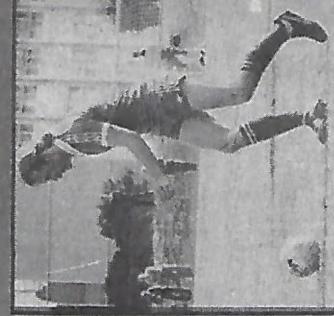
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Albion right back Gary Cutler (left) is beaten to the ball by a flying challenge from Ajax's Jim Williams



Polonia sweeper Stefan Mile (left) streaks away from Peter Vardaxis of Kelas-Hakosh



Seen Rooney of Hellas-Hakosh



Wilhelmina striker Joe Carroll

THEY'RE VICTORIA'S BEST

Here is our 1982 Victorian State league team of the year, according to votes in our Ametco Travel Player of the Year awards. Bill Wheland of Altona United, Andrew and Lorraine Gudkowich of Polonia and for top goalscorer on 12 votes each, Wheland beat the rest because he is a hero for Polonia. David Howarth missed a few games while Larry Ostravany was in the Polonia goal.

12 — Bill WHITESIDE (Falcon)

12 — Leuszak Dzialekowski (Polonia)
9 — Tacos Tackline (G. Cross)
Spira Karchemitsa (North)

36 — Stefan MILE (Polonia)

18 — Keith Adams (Croatie)
18 — John Gudkowich (Altona)
George Hanrahan (H-Held)

12 — Gary CUTLER (Altona)

9 — Peter Thurlow (Doves)
Grant Smirk (Falklands)
Frank Russell (G. Cross)

24 — Paul DRINOCZKY (Frankston)

18 — George Bostick (North)
18 — John Green (Altona)
George Hanrahan (H-Held)

21 — David NEILL (Falcon)

18 — Harry Hird (Juventus)
12 — Jim Train (Devonport)

18 — Graham Turner

18 — Joe Carroll



Paul Wade of Croydon



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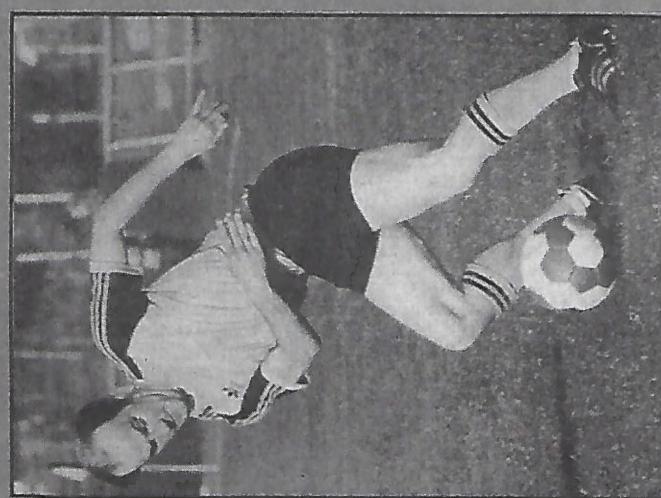
(North).
16 — Jeff Faulkner (Croatia).
9 — Bill Buchanan (Frankston).
16 — Dave Rigby (G. Cross).
9 — Joso Antelovic (Croatia).
9 — Sammy Wright (North).
(N.West).
18 — Hugh McCann (G. Cross).
9 — Paul Wade (Croydon).
Eddie Grey (H-Husk).
Kevin Swanson (Juventus).

15 — Stan
WEBSTER
(Doves).
9 — Bobby Tait (G. Cross).
Roger Bain (S. Shire).
21 — Joe
CARROL
(R'wood W.).
15 — Duncan Cummings (H-Husk).
9 — Dave Brogan (Croatia).
Cf Glider (G. Cross).

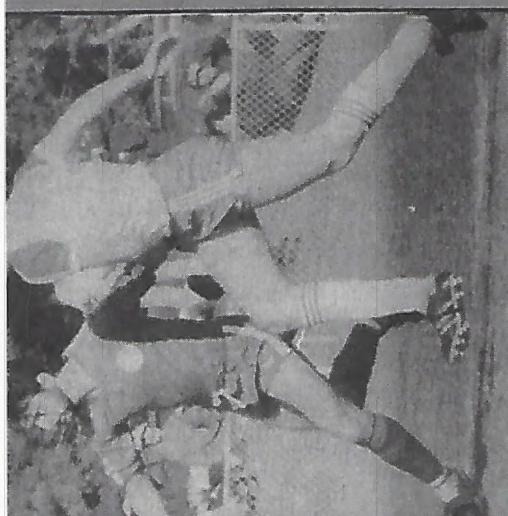
15 — Ken
SMART
(Albion).
9 — Ken Murphy (Croatia).
Janusz Przybyla (Poland).



Morell Falcons defender David Neill guards his goal.



Sunshine striker David Nelson



Frankston stopper Paul Drinoczyk (right) challenges Con Fairos of Northcote



Northcote keeper Spiro Kardamitis (left) raises his knee to protect himself from incoming Frankston City striker Kevin Wall.

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Ringwood Wilhelmina midfielder Joe Trout



St. Albans' best players in the finals series, from left: Robert Munter (senior team), Vasco Micevski (intermediate, equal best), Con Lagas (intermediate, equal best).

Junior of the week



Our Buffalo Sports Junior Sports Star of the Week is Andrew Park (pictured), of the Balnarring under 7s.

Andrew has good ball control, tackles hard and never gives up.

He is enthusiastic about the sport and his club, and never misses training.

Andrew's school is Red Hill Consolidated.



The captains of the two St. Albans High School teams that won their 1982 State championships, from left: Zdravko Avzin (senior team), Frank Spiteri (intermediate team).

They're 100%

• Of the 955 senior and junior teams in the 93 VSF divisions, four finished the season without losing or drawing a single game.

They are:

South Springvale under 11A (Eastern C division)

Box Hill under 11B (Eastern E)

Seaford under 11A (Peninsula A)

South Melbourne Hellas under 12B (Central).

Hat-trick heroes

From now on all applications for hat-trick diplomas in "Soccer Action" must be accompanied by a stamped self addressed envelope at least 12 inches long by 10 inches wide (31 centimetres by 21 centimetres).

The "Soccer Action" hat-trick diploma is available to any junior player who scores three or more goals in any league, Cup, interstate, or official school match. Friendly games are not included.

Coaches are asked to supply the following information.

1. Name of the boy who scored the hat-trick (or more).

2. His age, and the team for which he played.

3. The team against which he scored the goals.

4. Date of the game.

5. Address of the club to send the certificate (Please use ONE address per club — secretary, coach, team manager or similar of-

ficial, who will hand the certificate out to the boys).

Send the information to: "Soccer Action" 603 Little Lonsdale Street, MELBOURNE, Vic and we will forward the certificate free of charge.

The boys' names will also appear in our list of "Hat-trick Heroes", published every week.

This week's hat-trick heroes:

MENDE GACOVSKI, 10, five goals (Box Hill); JASON MORKS, 10, four goals (Box Hill); ALAN TODD, 10, five goals (Box Hill); GAVIN CLARKE, 10 (Gresford); NEIL DARLINGTON, 14, (Salisbury United); BRIAN TERVIT, 7, five goals (Frankston Pines); CON TSIKAKIS, 15, five goals (Port Melbourne); JONATHAN CLELES, 15, four goals; MARCUS CHADWICK, 7, four goals; JUSTIN CONNOLLY, 8, seven goals; CRAIG LESTER, 8, six goals; STEPHEN SALTER, 7, six goals; STEPHEN GOULD, 8, RODNEY CRUMP, 10 (Rosetta Primary School).

Juventus wins Northern Cup

Juventus (Vic) dominated the recent Northern Cup, with the under 15s winning 6-0 against Fawkner and the under 16s 1-0 against Moreland.

The under 15s are pictured below. From left, standing: T. Eminovski (manager), E. Sellitti, M. Muccio, A. Fletcher, C. Fumo, S. Lyberopoulos, G. Rizza, S. Greco, F. Romeo, C. Tamboureas, J. Armstrong (coach). Front: R. Devetak, N. Eminovski, M. Ferrer, A. Zintilis, S. Sorace, A. Noto.

This team's scorers against Fawkner were Eminovski (2), Tamboureas, Ferrer and Devetak.



St. Albans honors its stars

Robert Munter, Vasco Micevski and Con Lagas received trophies last week as the stars of the two St. Albans high school teams that won 1982 State championships.

Munter was voted the senior team's best player during the finals series, while Micevski and Lagas tied for the equivalent award in the intermediate team.

The other players of both teams received mentors of their successful year at a presentation ceremony in the school library. George Cross president Alf Zahra made the presentations.

The two State titles gained in 1982 brings to five the number of premierships won by St. Albans High in the past six years.

The junior team won the 1977 and 1980 titles, the intermediates won in 1979 and 1982 and were semi-finalists in 1980 and the seniors were champions this year and runners-up in 1981 and 1977.

In both finals this year, St. Albans came from behind to win 3-2 in extra time. The intermediate team beat Prahran and its scorers were Micevski, Lagas and Spiteri.

The seniors beat Kew High 3-2 with goals by Gerick, Kotek and Christaldo.

Victor Christaldo, incidentally, is to trial in England soon.

JUNIOR



St. Albans High School's senior team, from left, standing: B. Trossell, C. Gerick, A. Kustura, P. Beranic, R. Hunter, M. Pufek, I. Smolko, L. Todorovski, Mr Englezos (coach). Front: N. Kotek, V. Christaldo, C. Psihogios, Z. Avzin (captain), D. Loncaric, R. Munter, T. Korlevski.



St. Albans High School Intermediate team, from left, standing: Mr G. Ravenhall (coach), L. Markovski, C. Lagas, S. Mikic, M. Husslein, J. Apostolou, P. Panayi, V. Micevski. Front: B. Jackson, Z. Jusup, G. Bouliopoulos, F. Spiteri (captain), M. De Freitas, P. Crossley, R. Kellmar.

Meet two Cup finalists



Melbourne Crostia's under-14 A side, league champion this season and JLMC Cup finalist, the Crostia side is: Back row: A. Juric, M. Tadiac, R. Dragovic, I. Cacic, J. Bacak, R. Luburic, G. Jacmenouli, M. Jurjevic (coach). Front: S. Ramilak, F. Musil, A. Kolceg, J. Galic, I. Kelic, S. Omisel, J. Pavlovic. This side has been together for five years, winning the under-9 and under-13 JLMC Cups during that time.



Fornree Gully under 11A team is the first from the club ever to reach a junior Cup final. The boys, who have been together for four years, are, from left, standing: David Gee, Ryan Smith, Cane Chapman, Rodney Heinen, Brett Bakker, Robert Andrew, Spencer Jones, Stephen Cooper, Spencer Field. Front: Ronald Almon, Craig Fowler, David Mozing, Sam Djordjevic, David Tremble. At rear are coach Ron Fowler (left) and

Tatura's star

Marc Stalla (pictured) has given tremendous loyalty and service to his club, Tatura, in the Shepparton region.

Marc is essentially a winger but during the 1982 under-13 country championships was used with great success as sweeper.



Scenes from the recent national championships. TOP: NSW captain Robert Hunt and captain's captain Greg Fischer receive the Under 16 cup from VSF president John Dimitris. ABOVE: Darren Brown (left) of WA tangles with S. Heidemann of the ACT in the Under 14 titles in



Basic with the Footscray J.U.S.T. team which he led to the 1969 Victorian State League championships. From left, standing: Basic, Fode, Utješenovic, Milić, Colovic, Čirković, Zoraja, Buljević. Front: Adamović, Stanković, Mihalović, Rice, Milišavljević, Lukić, Rusmir.

Many orphans grow up feeling inferior, but with Rale Basic the opposite was true. Talking to him once about how the death of his parents during the early war years in Yugoslavia affected his life, Basic told me: "Perhaps I always felt I had something to prove as a child and I could prove it only with my own ability. There was no-one to help me. I developed a fierce desire to succeed and since then I always have believed I can do things better than anyone else."

It was Basic, of course, who led Australian soccer into a

new era by taking the national team to the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany but for the past year, he has experienced the relative obscurity of State League soccer with Blacktown City, and he has missed the bright lights of stardom.

He is back now, as coach of South Melbourne Hellas Club president Sam Papasavas announced the appointment at Wednesday, after a late-night meeting with Basic, first at Middle Park Stadium, and then at the Olive Tree restaurant in South Melbourne. Papasavas has been trying unsuccessfully since 1977 to lead Hellas to PSL title. He has tried out six coaches—Manny Poulikakis, Con Aanthopoulos, Dave McLaren, Duncan McKay, John Margarita and Terry Doherty. Now it's the turn of Rale Basic.

He will move from Sydney to Melbourne in December, and will start pre-season training soon afterwards. Hellas fans always have and always will demand success, especially since the club spares no expense in buying the best players and signing big-name coaches. Basic knows there will be a lot of pressure on him, but he's prepared for it. "We're all setting

out to make it Hellas' best year yet," he says. "Not just me, but the committee and of course the players."

Papasavas has said the club needs three of four new players to strengthen the team, but although Basic has a few in mind, he's biding his time, waiting until he is able to assess all the men on his staff at the moment.

He is however determined to repeat the successes which started his turbulent career. It was with Footscray J.U.S.T. that he achieved his first coaching triumph—winning the 1969 State League championship. His ego fed on his ensuing successes, and so his stand became stronger and stronger on most subjects concerning soccer. He certainly was not about to give ground to men of less expertise, and so he was always still the most outspoken critic of soccer in Australia. It was a series of heated clashes with ASF president Sir Arthur George that resulted in Basic's contract as national coach not being renewed after the 1974 World Cup finals. He was in the running a few times afterwards, but in each case old animosities got in the way.

"Much has been made about my alleged 'money-hungry'

Basic talks of great players, memorable games, Sir Arthur George and Saigon



By
**Laurie
Schwab**

financial demands," says Basic. "The facts are as follows:

"Sir Arthur and I had agreed that I should receive twice as much as the players. In the World Cup finals, they were promised \$1000 a man for every point they gained so naturally I expected \$2000. This was in addition to an incentive of \$3000 which I eventually was paid after we had qualified for the finals. Sir Arthur's argument was that I should not get the bonus per point because that money was being supplied not by the ASF, but by a consortium of sponsors. I could see his point. To be honest, I was given a bonus and we had agreed on it. I felt very hurt by it all. I had succeeded in a difficult job on very little pay. My four years as national coach cost the ASF less than \$20,000—a measly \$5000 a year! So it all revolved around that bonus payment. When the Socceroos drew 0-0 with Chile in the World Cup finals, they earned \$1000 for the point. I believed I was entitled to \$2000 but I never got the money."

Basic agrees that it was largely due to his clashes with Sir Arthur that his contract was not renewed after the World Cup.

Another clash over money occurred before the players left for West Germany. The scene was the team's hotel at Wahroonga. Sir Arthur came to meet the players and negotiate bonus payments for them from money provided by the consortium of sponsors.

The players put their demands during a meeting with Sir Arthur and he rejected them. The players reacted by buying their bags and preparing to quit the camp, forcing Sir Arthur to compromise.

"It was then that one of the players disclosed that I had been the architect of their financial demands," Basic says, "and Sir Arthur certainly didn't take kindly to that news."

Basic was Australia's youngest-ever national coach when he was appointed in September, 1970. He was 34 then, working as a physical education teacher at the Griffith Institute of Technology and also coaching Melbourne, Hungary and the Victorian State team. About the same time, he was appointed full-time coach of St George to replace Frank Arok who was leaving to return to Yugoslavia.

His clashes with officials started on his first Socceroos tour, in 1970. First he defied the advice of team doctor Brian Corrigan in allowing Manfred Schaefer to play despite his hamstring injury, then he blasted the tour leaders for having arranged a match against not Manchester City but Manchester City's reserves, and he got angry when the bosses refused his demand that John Doyle and Dave Keddie should be sent home from Teheran over breaking curfew.

But glory was much more prevalent than unpleasantness. Basic recalls some of the more memorable matches while he was national coach.

"Before we had our 1972 Asian tour, we had excellent results against Wolves (1-0 and 2-2) and Pele's Santos (2-2). These games showed how powerful we had become in defence. Even Wolves' world-renowned forward Derek Dougan and Hugh Curran could not break through in Melbourne, where we won 1-0. In Sydney I risked making three changes to give Bugsy Nyskohus, Billy Rogers and Terry Butler a run, yet we could have beaten Wolves handily after going to a 2-lead. Hugh Curran got so frustrated he flattened Ray Richards and was sent off 10

minutes from the end. That

the World cup, I was not willing to risk a direct midfield confrontation against Brazilians who could string 10 or 15 passes together with brilliant one-twos. And so we relied on long kicks, many from our goalkeeper, to bypass the Brazilian midfielders who were thus cut out of the game. This really upset their rhythm.

"Obviously we had to mark Pele, otherwise he would have us apart single-handedly. I was in two minds. Should I give the job to Mackay who had overshadowed Speigler in Israel and Domozas in Greece or should I give it to the pressurised Richards? What do you feed him on—raw meat?"

"We were now using every match to find answers to problems that would be posed in the World Cup. In using Schaefer and Ray Richards in a double-stopper tandem, we were reassured against Wolves that we had markers capable of stopping almost anyone."

"But it wasn't until after our 2-2 draw with Santos that we started to feel genuinely confident about having a team good enough to gain World Cup qualification. My tactical concept all along had been to introduce more attacking activity from the 'second line' players, in other words to play football from behind. Bobby Hogg attacked from full back and we had Ray Richards, Mackay, Jimmy Rooney and Ray Baartz all capable of bursting through from deep positions, exploiting the space front runners Attila Abonyi and Adrian Alston were able to create for them. Despite this plan, I decided before the game not to try to compete with the highly skillful Santos midfielders but rather to use my second-line players mainly in sudden thrusts towards goal."

Perhaps this may sound contradictory. However, while I knew my midfielders were eminently capable of making the play against teams like those we would have to meet in

Then there was the 1972 tour game in Vietnam which almost resulted in a bloodbath of unparalleled proportion. The Vietnamese fans were not used to European tackling and Australia's was a bit brutal on a few occasions. The spectators literally went berserk. They stormed onto the pitch and it is no exaggeration to say that their enthusiasm began to fear for their lives. They threw stones and other objects.

Rasic takes up the story:

"One of our officials, Tom Patricick, had a plastic bag full of kerosene thrown in his face. We waited in the dressing

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Coach Rale Basic
(back row, extreme left), with the 1973 Socceroos.

From left, back row: Basic, Branko Buljević, John Watkiss, Peter Wilson, Adrian Alston, Max Tolson, Ernie Campbell, Les Scheinflug (assistant coach).

Middle row: Harry Williams, Ray Baartz, Doug Utješenovic, Attila Abonyi, Ray Richards, Manfred Schaefer.

Front row: Jimmy Rooney, Jimmy Mackay, Jimmy Milišavljević, Jim Fraser, Col Curran, Johnny Warren.

SOCER ACTION

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the armpits, lifted him into the air and unceremoniously dropped him in his behind. He had got his revenge, but the crowd clapped in appreciation. They interpreted it as courtesy. Schaefer was real gentle.

Australia's return match against Iran during the 1973 World Cup qualifying series, was played in Teheran, six days after the Socceroos had beaten Iran in Sydney, and the two teams actually flew to Teheran on the same plane and both stayed at the Sheraton.

"At our team meeting we agreed that our objective was not goals at any cost, but to qualify for Munich and to do so clinically, deliberately, without taking unnecessary chances."

"Rasic really scored twice for Iran, once from the penalty spot, and as the first half was drawing to a close, I talked with Max Tolson who was next to me on the bench. It was supposed to be confidential but we had to scream to hear each other over the din of the 100,000 crowd. I told him that in the dressing rooms I would say that despite our poor performance, we were still leading 1-0 overall. Then I would shout angrily: 'Is this the way we are going to qualify?' Tolson was quick to yes. 'No,' I would ask. 'What will give us a 100 per cent effort to make sure we go to Munich?' Tolson was then to say: 'I will. Let me have a go.'

"In the rooms at half time, the players had their heads down. It was like a morgue but I put on my show and when Tolson sprang to his feet and said: 'I will, I'll do it,' he brought the other players back to life. Alston had been so nervous during the game he could barely bend his knees, so I sent Tolson on to replace him."

"My instruction was that from the kick-off, either Abonyi or Warren was to deliver the ball into the penalty area, after having stayed sufficiently to allow Tolson to get up there. Tolson was to 'challenge' the goalkeeper and the defenders for that ball. It took 30 seconds for Abonyi to lob the ball onto Tolson's head. Tolson used his massive frame (and his elbows) to connect not only with the ball but with goalkeep Rashidi and to petrify defenders. The Iranians lay in a heap inside their own goal. Tolson too was down, with one eye open, moaning for 'help', before springing to his feet. The sheer power and show of strength created an incredible turn in the game. The Iranian goalkeeper kept beckoning to his bench, wanting to be replaced, the two defenders kept glancing nervously towards Tolson, wondering whether he was normal and whether he would do them more damage. Tolson had disturbed the Iranians' rhythm and injected new power and belief into his own team."

"I had told Tolson that if we did not score in the first 10 or 15 minutes of the half, he should go back and help form a defensive wall to keep the score at 2-0. I had told Warren and Abonyi that as soon as Tolson dropped back from his central stopper's position, they were to stop crossing the ball. And so, after about 10 minutes, I called Tolson back to become the third stopper, alongside Richards and Wattiss. He was notorious for his lack of pace, but he came back at the highest speed he ever has run in his life."

"Yet Warren, who had been playing very well, kept on crossing the ball, even though we had no-one up there. Goalkeeper Rashidi kept plucking those crosses out of the air and sending long kicks to Mazloumi, thus putting us under pressure again. I talked to Jimmy Rooney on the bench, asking: 'What's Jimmy doing wrong?'

"He's dribbling too much," Rooney answered.

"Bloody hell! He's not dribbling enough," I answered. "You get ready to go in. Don't cross the ball. If necessary, dribble and push it over the touchline."

"As soon as he got onto the park, Rooney beat four men, turned and pushed the ball into touch. At least he didn't cross it. Anyway, the 2-0 scoreline stood till the end and we won 3-2 on aggregate over the two games. And in the 45 minutes he played, Max Tolson was as big and as powerful as 100,000 people."

It is soccer history of course, that the Socceroos went on to qualify for the World Cup finals with results of 0-0, 2-2 and 1-0 over South Korea in the Asian final.

Rasic admires Ray Baartz, the former Sydney Hakoah star, the greatest Australian-born player with whom he has been associated. The style of Rasic's team was built partly on Baartz's sensational shot — his ability to have a crack from any angle, from up to 30 metres. He remembers fondly the Baartz-Col Curran singing duet on bus rides — both in slouch hats, doing 'Road to Gundagai' — and the gluttonous appetite of Adrian Alston. "He could eat a full



Rale Rasic (right) shakes hands with his new boss, Hellas president Sam Papasavas. The picture was taken not last week, but a few years ago, when Rasic was coach of Marconi. The candidate for the Hellas coaching job at that time was former Socceroo Manfred Schaefer (left).

What he's done

Rale Rasic's record in Australian soccer:

- Played in the J.U.S.T. team that won the Victorian State League championship and Dockerty Cup in 1963 and the Ampol Cup in 1966;
- As coach, took J.U.S.T. into the 1967 Australia Competition;
- Coached the Victorian State team from 1968 to 1970;
- Victorian State League championship with J.U.S.T. in 1969;
- Lifted Melbourne-Hungaria from near the bottom to second place in 1970;
- Coached the Victorian under 16 team to the 1970 national title;
- Appointed national coach 1970 and took the Socceroos on a successful world tour later that year;
- Switched to St George in 1971 and immediately helped win a three-nation tournament in Tokyo;
- NSW grand final win with St George, 1971;
- Took Marconi to victory in the interstate championship of 1972 (top four of NSW v top four of Victoria);
- NSW grand final with Marconi, 1973;
- World Cup finals in West Germany with the Socceroos, 1974;
- Took Pen Hellenic (Sydney Olympic) into the NSW top four, 1975;
- Marconi equal first in inaugural PSL season, 1977, but conceded championship to Sydney City on goal difference;
- Won Phillips Cup with Adelaide City, 1979;
- With Blacktown City experienced relegation from the PSL, 1981;
- Third in NSW State League with Blacktown, 1982.

meal now, and two plates of spaghetti half an hour later."

Branko Buljevic, on the other hand, was nicknamed "Schnitzel" because while the others ate steaks before a game, he would eat schnitzel. Eventually, other followed his lead until there was a whole brigade of schnitzel eaters. In Teheran, Billy Vojtek and John Perin figured out a way to control the lighting in the room of Adrian Alston and Ottie Abonyi. Alston turned the lights off, and click, they'd go on again as soon as he tried to go to sleep. Mike Denton made a profit selling Coke to his fellow players in Tokyo. The Coke price was too high at the hotel, so Denton found a factory in Port Melbourne. They gave me goggles, apron, boots and gloves and got me working on the steam machine, washing car engines in scorching heat. I couldn't speak English, so I couldn't communicate with anyone. At lunchtime I simply packed up and went home. Later, I worked as a window cleaner and bricklayer. I went unsuccessfully into business and I lost everything, as did my team mate Milenko Ruzmir who went to work.

"It's not too bad for British players because they at least know the language."

Rasic has seen so often the effects of football pressure on the private lives of the semi-professional player. The most prevalent problem is alienation from wives, and from children because of so much time spent away from the home.

"If the pull of the home is stronger than the pull of your work or your sport, then our work or sport performance will suffer. Generally speaking, the stop player would not have reached his level had he

says, "Neither did the others who came with me from Yugoslavia," so Footscray J.U.S.T. paid up full wages for four months. I then went onto the assembly line of a car factory in Port Melbourne. They gave me goggles, apron, boots and gloves and got me working on the steam machine, washing car engines in scorching heat. I couldn't speak English, so I couldn't communicate with anyone. At lunchtime I simply packed up and went home. Later, I worked as a window cleaner and bricklayer. I went unsuccessfully into business and I lost everything, as did my team mate Milenko Ruzmir who went to work.

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"If the pull of the home is stronger than the pull of your work or your sport, then our work or sport performance will suffer. Generally speaking, the stop player would not have reached his level had he

allowed his home to pull more strongly than his sport. It is the classic vicious circle.

"When I was national coach, I was up in aeroplanes or at my club more often than I was at home. Once, at the airport, my son Simon, then two, called someone else daddy."

"The clubs must give much more recognition to the players' wives and families through social functions and by creating an enjoyable environment for them at the ground. In fact, the wives of the clubs rely on us as much as anyone else to see that the players perform well at the weekend."

"Obviously I cannot mention names, but one player did not go to the 1974 World Cup finals because of lack of understanding between him and his wife. Two players who became Socceroos after coming here from Scotland were divorced because of the amount of time they spent as soccer. Another prominent national team player spent so much time with his club that his wife left him. There's also the case of an engagement breaking up because a player went on a Socceroo tour. One of Australia's most prominent players played for a Sydney club and lived in Sydney while his wife lived in Melbourne. At training camp it was not unusual for wives to ring up at all hours of the night, either fighting mad or to protest that they were lonely."

"Then there's the difficulty of combining work with soccer. Peter Wilson lost four jobs, Jim Tansey was at one stage getting up at 6 am knocking off at 3 pm having a couple of hours sleep in his car, training camp arriving home about 1 pm. Before that he and Tommy cumming did only casual work, knowing they would have to quit anyway. Others lost jobs because of tours Peter Oller and Ernie Campbell, for example. Ottie Abonyi didn't go on tour for fear of losing his job as a tailor. And it took Manfred Schaefer six months to adjust to his new way of life when he took over an early morning milk run. John Perin worked an eight or 10-hour day doing heavy concreting work. John Nyskohus is on his feet from the early hours, working as a butcher."

"A major problem faced by most top players, irrespective of nationality is what to do when they retire. Suddenly their entire life changes and they find it extremely difficult to settle into a new routine. The ones who suffer most are those who poured everything into their sport without worrying much about career, family or investment. One prominent player I coached turned alcoholic after he retired and was divorced by his wife. Many seek the fast buck on the racecourse or at the poker table without success."

"In their defence, I must stress that the system is largely at fault. All professional clubs must ensure that their young, potential stars have something other than soccer to fall back on, this can be done by paying their apprenticeship or college fees, for example. I know Sydney City cares for its young players and so does Adelaide City whose young apprentices get part of their pay in cash and the rest paid into a trust account for the period of their contract. Marconi has a similar system."

Having talked earlier about some of the most memorable matches with which he has been associated he includes of course the 2-0 victory over Uruguay and the games against West Germany, East Germany and Chile in the World Cup — we ask Rasic to

Olympic Sports Field in Kensington on September 30. This is the way the teams lined up, with substitutes in brackets:

ADELAIDE CITY: Peter Marshall — Bugsy Nyskohus, John Besir (Jim Muir 51st minute), Bobby Russell, Glenn Dods — Agenor Muniz, Gary Marocchi, Brian Northcote, Charlie Villani — John Nyskohus, Chris Kent (Sergio Melo 50th minute).

ST. GEORGE: Michael Fraser — George Harris, Doug Utješenovic, Rudolf Della Picca, Robert O'Shea — Tom Mihalovic, Peter Katholos, John O'Shea — Roy Cotton (Peter Hensman), Nick Fenoughty, Phil O'Connor.

The referee was Chris Bambridge of Victoria.

Rasic continues: "Phil O'Connor, the St. George winger, was in brilliant form, and Peter Katholos and John O'Shea dominated the midfield from the start, with the result that St. George stormed to a 2-0 lead with goals by O'Connor and John Nyskohus. In the space of a minute, at half time, when we trailed by only one goal, I did not really think we would lose, but after the second I began to worry."

"We rarely were able to break through because Della Picca was doing a brilliant job of marking our key forward, John Nyskohus. So I decided to bring on big Jim Muir as a forward and draw Della Picca away from Nyskohus. It worked perfectly and Nyskohus found the space to score only three minutes after Muir had come on."

"Then John's brother Bugsy moved up from defence to give John a hand. They played a near one-two before Bugsy scored the equaliser with 25 minutes to go. It was 2-2. Then came the 90th minute. Then bang a goal. Adelaide City was fifth on the league ladder, and in our Cup semi-final we had beaten Canberra City 1-0 in a difficult match.

"Although our home-town supporters regarded us as clear favorites and the Salts as hopeless underdogs, the match captured Adelaide's imagination and a crowd of almost 9000 rolled up at the

match.

"The day belonged to the

Nyskohus brothers, the match-winners who scored all three goals between them. Having spent most of their careers with a relatively unsuccessful club, Lion, before joining Adelaide City, they were determined not to let this opportunity pass them by. Adelaide City still are talking about the day the Nyskohus brothers destroyed St. George.

"I wonder whether we can claim a world record for having two brothers scoring all three goals in a Cup final, or for a cup final featuring two sets of brothers (Nyskohus and O'Shea)."

Looking at the Phillips League, Basic pinpoints a number of problems which he believes the league may never be able to overcome:

- The huge cost of air fares expected to be about \$650,000 this year — which can be met consistently only through sponsorship money;

- Compared with State Leagues, the PSL deprives fans of seeing their particular club every week;

- Being outside the normal promotion-relegation framework, the PSL is to an extent cut from the rest of soccer which consequently does not support the PSL as it should;

- The PSL suffers from the fact that other leagues, particularly junior, play at the same time as PSL matches, which means that crowds are segmented rather than concentrated at the big matches;

- Administration and promotion of the league plus the day-to-day handling of fixtures and venues have left a lot to be desired.

"Taking the broad view," says Basic, "it probably is say that the Australian soccer set-up was changed too abruptly with the introduction of the PSL in 1977. Perhaps we should have had regional leagues to start off with, as they having in the U.S. and Brazil, with national play-offs at the end of the season. If the PSL does collapse because of costs, regional leagues probably would take it place."



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Rasic chats with Franz Beckenbauer during the New York Cosmos' visit in 1979. Cosmos played against Adelaide City, the club Rasic was coaching at the time. Cosmos return for a game against Victoria on October 17.



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